

Appl. No. : 10/632,537
Filed : August 1, 2003

REMARKS

Claims 6-9, 15-18, 21-27, 32, 38-41, and 46-49 are pending in this application. Claims 6, 7, 15, 16, 17, 24, 25, and 32 have been amended. Claims 2-5, 11-14, 29, 31, 34-37, and 42-45 have been canceled in the present Amendment. Claims 10, 19, 20, 28, 30, and 33 had been previously canceled. Support for the amendments and new claims is found in the specification and claims as filed.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 2-8, 11-17, 21-26, 29, 31, 32, 34-37, and 42-45 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Bartkowiak et al. (US 2003/0235817). Although Applicants do not agree with the propriety of the rejection, Claims 29 and 31 have been canceled without prejudice, solely to facilitate issuance of the claims indicated to be allowed or allowable. Claims 2-8 and 34-37 now depend from allowed Claim 9, or an intervening claim. Claims 11-17 and 42-45 now depend from allowed Claim 18, or an intervening claim. Claims 21-26 now depend from allowed Claim 27, or an intervening claim. Applicants reserve the ability to pursue the canceled claims, or similar claims, in one or more continuing patent applications. The rejection is therefore moot.

Allowed Claims

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's allowance of Claims 9, 18, 27, 38-41, and 46-49.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any remaining concerns that might prevent the prompt allowance of the application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 1/14/05

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